GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1900
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2002
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEARING HANDICAPPED
SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute for Hearing Handicapped (NIHH), Mumbai has made anyassessment regarding the hearing impaired people of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated percentage of hearing impairment at the time of birth;

(c) the other reasons of hearing impairment besides the hearing impairment at the time of birth;

(d) whether the Government propose to launch any programme for making people aware in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The non-congenital causes of hearing impairment include perinatal infections, high fever and convulsions, infectious diseases (e.g. whooping cough, mumps, measles, syphilis, meningitis, viral fever & tuberculosis) intake of ototoxic drugs, acoustic trauma or head injury, sudden exposure to loud sounds or long durations of exposure to sounds, ear infections which are left untreated, high blood pressure, diabetes, hereditary predisposition to late-onset hearing loss, acoustic tumours, ageing etc.

(d) to (f) The Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped has beenorganizing public awareness programmes in various parts of the country on prevention, early identification, intervention and rehabilitation of the hearing impaired in the country. Awareness campaigns have also occasionally been carried out through the print and audio visual media.